

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A splint for immobilizing and supporting a body part of a human ~~by covering the body part from three sides~~, wherein said splint comprises:

a) an inflatable portion structured to cover the body part from three sides, leaving one side uncovered, and comprising inflatable tubes interconnected by non-inflatable parts for achieving variable degrees of support, stiffness and restriction of movement, ~~said tubes and non-inflatable parts~~ inflatable portion being made of a flexible material having two opposed edges,

~~said splint being constructed to be wrapped around the body part in a circumferential direction, each of said non-inflatable parts being located to extend between two of said inflatable tubes, and said tubes and said non-inflatable parts extending in a direction transverse to the circumferential direction;~~

b) ventilation holes for skin ventilation contained in, and extending through, the non-inflatable parts;

c) at least one gas pressure source device connected to said splint; and

d) a non-inflatable portion comprising at least one adjustable member for connecting said splint two opposed edges together across said uncovered side of the body part; wherein said splint, when said inflatable tubes are inflated, fits the structure of the body part ~~for the purpose of stabilizing and providing support to the body part and its~~

~~articulations in varying degrees of rigidity and in particular positions.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 1, wherein said at least one adjustable member is a strap made of Velcro.

3. (Withdrawn, currently amended) The splint according to claim 1, wherein the body part is the torso, ~~taking into account the structure of the body and its curves for maximum compatibility.~~

4. (Withdrawn, currently amended) The splint according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ the body part is the neck, ~~taking into account the neck's curves and structure for maximum compatibility.~~

5. (Withdrawn, currently amended) The splint according to claim 1, wherein the body part is composed of the leg, the foot, the ankle and the heel, ~~taking into account the leg's curves and structure for maximum compatibility and preventing pressure on the heel.~~

6. (Withdrawn) The splint according to claim 1, wherein the body part is the arm, and said splint is constructed to fit the shoulder structure, and to support the palm taking into account the arm's curves and structure for maximum compatibility and immobilizing the shoulder joints or upper and lower arm in any desired position.

7. (Original) The splint according to claim 1, wherein said splint is made of two nylon layers joined together by

soldering means.

8. (Original) The splint according to claim 1, wherein said splint is made of two nylon layers which are coated with polyurethane.

9. (Currently amended) The splint according to claim 1, wherein the body part is a limb having a limb articulation and movement, and rigidity and stabilization of said limb articulation is controlled by the degree of air pressure in said splint.

10. (Original) The splint according to claim 1, wherein the pressure source device is a hand pump.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 1 wherein the tightness of the splint on the body part is controlled by the fastening or loosening of the at least one adjustable member.

13. (Original) The splint according to claim 1 further including a suspension strap.

14. (Original) The splint according to claim 1 wherein pressure within the splint is controlled by a valve.

15. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 1 wherein the adjustable member is detachable.

16. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 1, further comprising at least one loop connected for suspension purposes.

17. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 16, wherein said at least one loop is connected at one of said edges.

18. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 12, wherein said at least one adjustable member is a strap made of Velcro.

19. (Previously Presented) The splint according to claim 1, wherein said non-inflatable parts extend only in the direction transverse to the circumferential direction.

20. (New) A splint according to claim 1, constructed to be wrapped around the body part in a circumferential direction, and wherein each of said non-inflatable parts being located to extend between two of said inflatable tubes, and said tubes and said non-inflatable parts extending in a direction transverse to the circumferential direction.

21. (New) A splint according to claim 1, comprising ventilation holes for skin ventilation contained in, and extending through, the non-inflatable parts.

22. (New) A splint according to claim 1, wherein inflation of said inflatable tubes fits the structure of the inflatable portion to the structure of the three sides of the body part covered by the inflatable portion.

23. (New) A splint according to claim 1, wherein said inflatable portion is shaped to follow closely the shape of the body part when inflated.